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Montana Advisory Council on Children & Youth

MACCY

AND

NCSCCY

MONTANA ORGANIZATION FOR VOLUNTEER EFFORT
LEWIS & CLARK GUNN CLUBHOUSE
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

Children



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EXECUTIVE ORDER Creating the Montana Advisory Council
on Children and Youth. (MACCY)

BROCHURE, "MAC-CYmizing Montana's Children and Youth."

MAP of Proposed Multi-County Districts.

COMMUNITY PLANNING - CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS,
Chapter IV from a publication by the Montana
Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

PRIORITIES FOR CHILDREN - a Work Sheet from Montana,
the Western States and the Nation.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH RECOMMENDATIONS for Montana, by
Montana's twenty delegates to the 1970 White House
Conference on Children.



STATE OF MONTANA

I, FORREST H. ANDERSON, Governor of the State of Montana, hereby create the Montana Children and Youth Advisory Council, this 10th day of February, 1972. The Council is the successor to the Montana Advisory Committee on Children and Youth created by me on February 19, 1970.

The purpose of the Council shall be to advise the Governor in the following areas: (1) Building programs and recommendations for action regarding major issues concerned with children and youth; (2) Stimulating better cooperation and coordination among agencies, organizations and groups concerned with children and youth; and (3) Facilitating widespread involvement with children and youth issues through the implementation of local, district, and regional workshops.

The Council shall be composed of one man, one woman, one young man (between 14 and 25 years), and one young woman (between 14 and 25 years) from each of the twelve multi-county districts of Montana. This makes a total of 48 persons.

The names and addresses of Council members serving at the pleasure of the Governor are listed on the attached sheet.

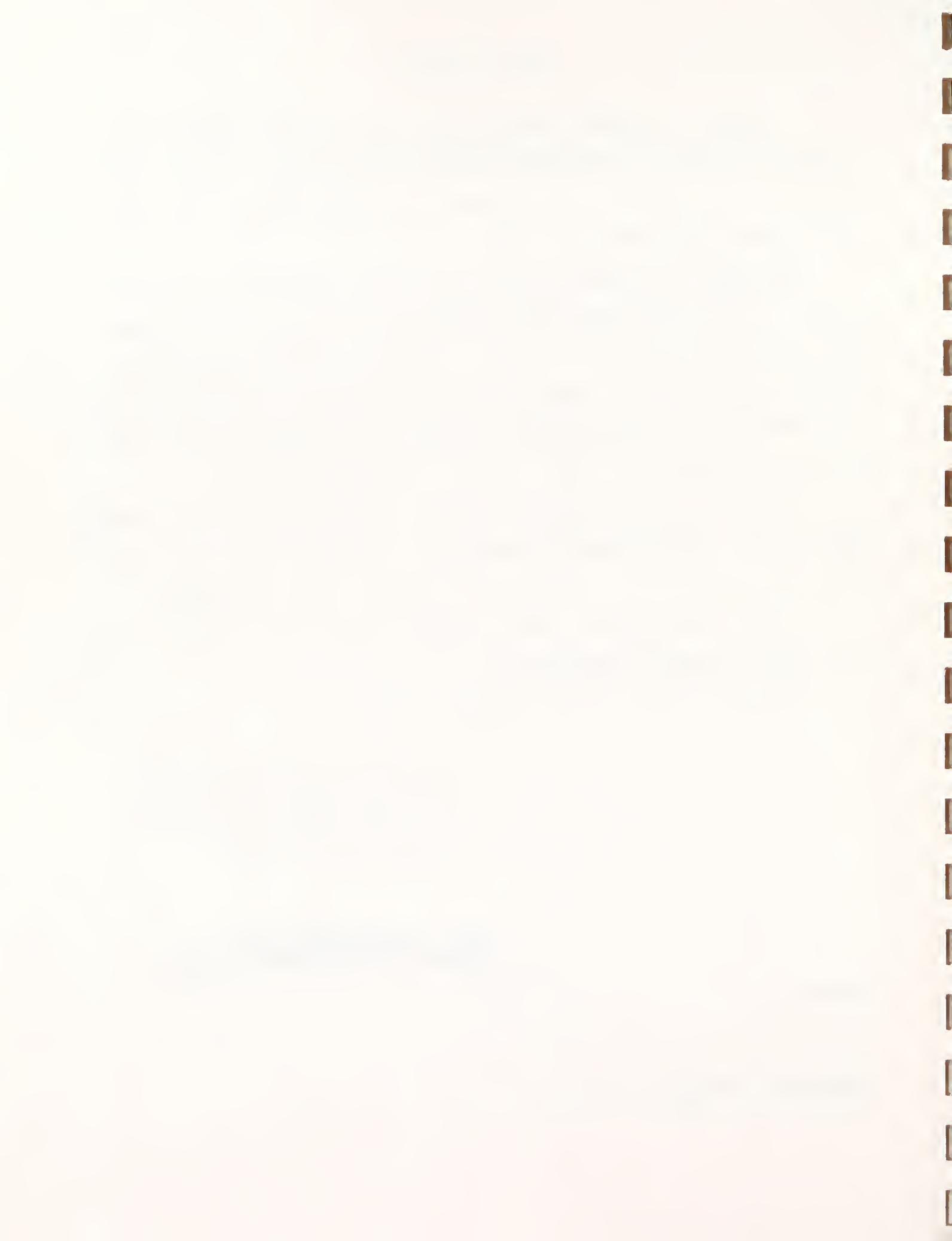
The Council shall exist until February 10, 1974.

Given under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 10th day of February, in the year of our LORD, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Two.


FORREST H. ANDERSON, Governor

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE



MACCY's have been involved in . . .

- planning, leadership, and participation in the Central Montana Little White House Conference on Children and Youth.
- Central Montana Human Resources Committee.
- a Community Leadership Development Workshop in Sidney.
- 1970 White House Conference on Children and follow-up.
- 1971 White House Conference on Youth and follow-up.
- a "Youth Involvement Fair" at 4-H Senior Youth Camp at Camp Maiden near Lewistown.
- 4-H Junior Leaders Camps near Havre.
- Montana Farmer's Union Senior Youth Camp in the Highwood Mountains on the theme, "Community Development".
- five MACCY meetings in five different areas of Montana in the committee's first year.
- visit to the Montana State University Child Development Center, Bozeman.
- learning of the activities of the Region V Mental Health Center, Miles City.
- 4-C's (Community Coordinated Child Care) State Council.

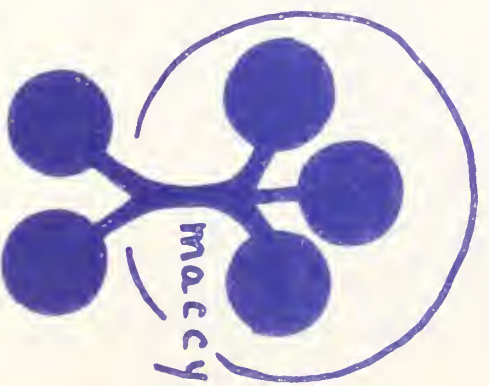
- Drug Education Advisory Committee of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- following day-to-day action of the 42nd Montana Legislature on matters affecting young people.
- assistance in planning Indian-White Youth-Adult Conferences.
- planning, conducting, and recruiting youth for a "Dialogue With Youth" sponsored by branches of the American Association of University Women.
- establishing the Roundup Teen Center.
- workshops on the priorities for Montana children and youth with over 100 groups.

You are needed to help with efforts to improve the lives of Montana's children and youth. MACCY would like to know what concerns you have about young people and what you are doing. If you need help with some project or idea; have some news for MACCY; or want more information, contact:

Miss Gerry Fenn
 Community Planning Coordinator
 Children and Youth Programs
 Room 507 - Power Block
 Helena, Montana 59601

MAC - CY mizing MONTANA'S CHILDREN and YOUTH

montana
 advisory
~~committee~~
 on
 children
 and
 youth



Purpose of MACCY

Functions of the Montana Advisory Committee on Children and Youth outlined by Governor Forrest H. Anderson when he appointed the members are:

- * Build programs and recommendations for action to enable the people of Montana, both young and old, to deal with major issues confronting our children and youth.
- * Stimulate better cooperation and coordination among agencies, organizations and groups concerned with children and youth on local, state and national levels.
- * Facilitate widespread involvement with children and youth issues through the implementation of local, district and regional workshops where it will be possible for our young people to work with "the establishment" in solving children and youth problems, and to plan for a relevant future.
- * Talk to one another and listen to what is said.

MACCY was needed in 1970 to make preparations in Montana for the White House Conferences on Children and Youth. Over 5000 Montanans were involved in defining concerns and considering ways to create better life styles for young people. As a result of the Children and Youth Conferences, many more alternatives are open for consideration and action. MACCY has a responsibility to encourage as many Montana citizens as possible to use the ideas to help improve the lives of Montana children and youth.

Who Are the Members?

MACCY members represent a cross-section of Montana people from all areas of the State. Half of the members are youth and half are adults.



Areas of Concern

PARENTS AND FAMILIES

EDUCATION

HEALTH

COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH

DISCRIMINATION

LEGAL RIGHTS and JUSTICE

INSTITUTIONS

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

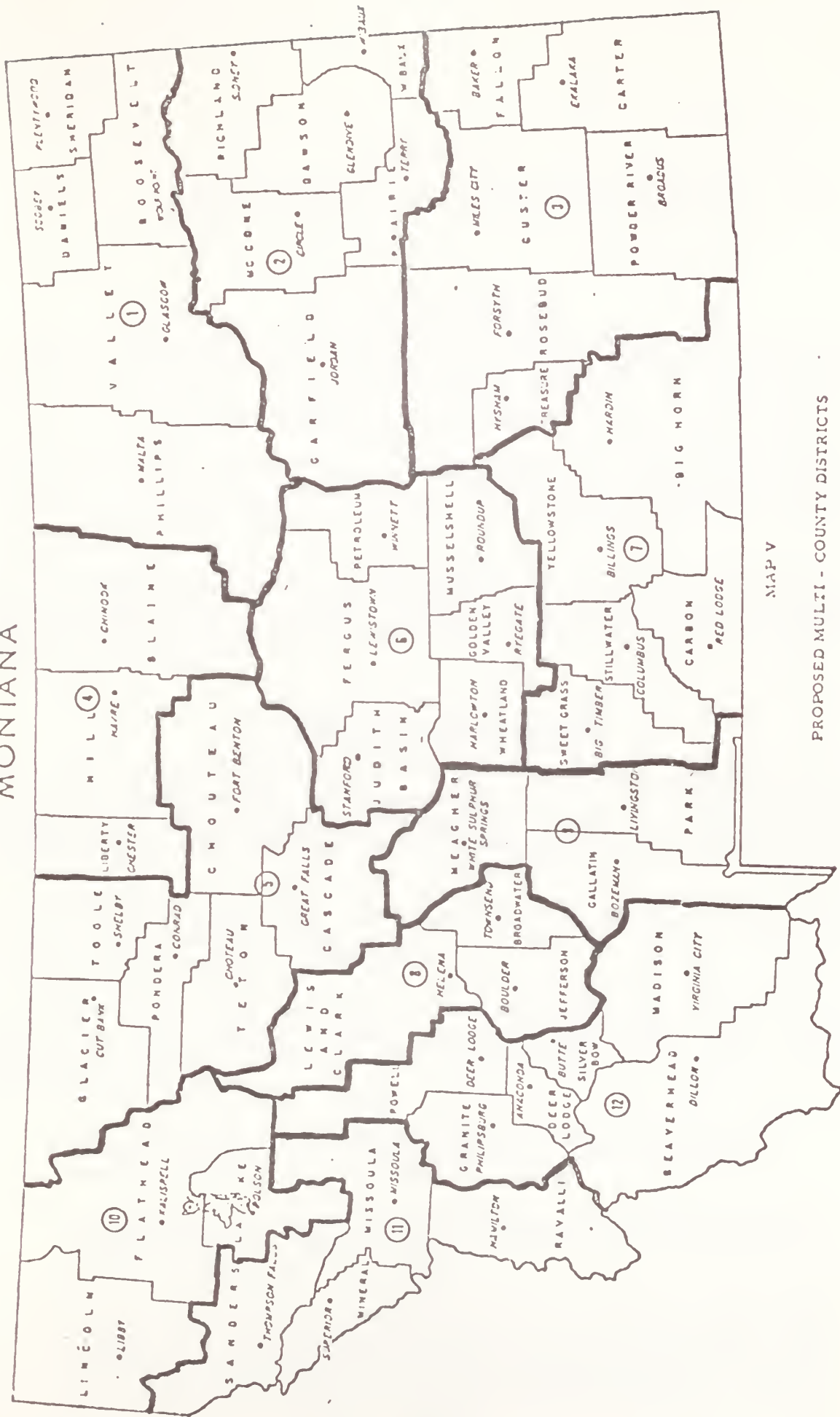
LEGISLATION

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Ways MACCY's Serve

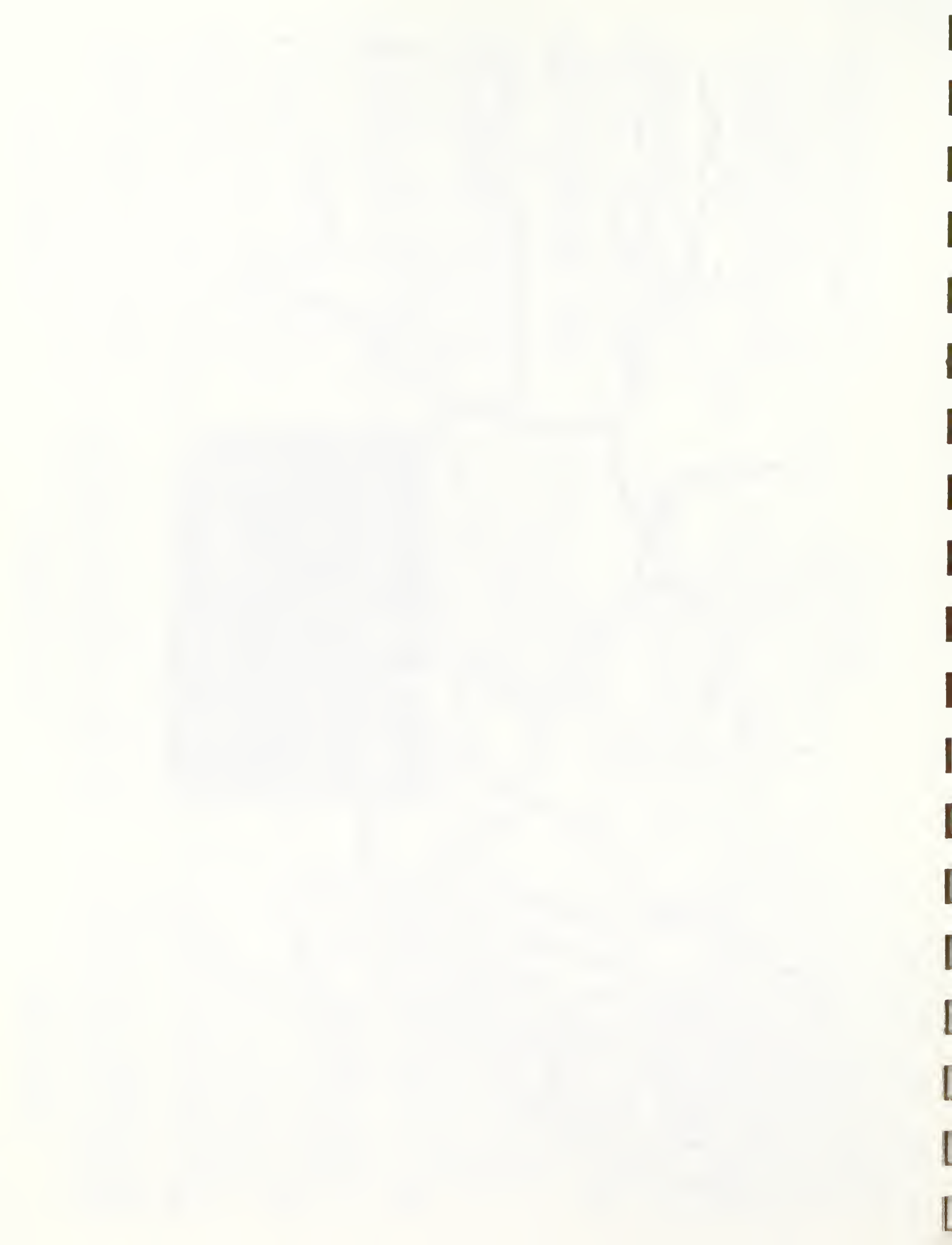
- o Advise the Governor.
- o Share ideas with people from other parts of the State about "What's working for Montana young people?"
- o Provide leadership for organizing and conducting workshops and projects with, for, and about children and youth.
- o Discover and tap the resources (people and materials) concerned with young people.
- o Create public awareness of children and youth concerns by use of newspapers, radio, television and citizen participation.
- o Draw upon the knowledge and skills of persons who have attended out-of-state functions regarding children and youth.
- o Provide information and assistance to any citizen who requests it.
- o Serve as members of local, state, and national groups - Boards, Commissions, Committees, Task Forces - that have concerns about young people.
- o Visit key decision-makers like mayors, county commissioners, school board members, legislators and others to discuss issues.
- o Encourage individuals and groups to coordinate their efforts and take mutually supportive actions.

MONTANA



MAP V

PROPOSED MULTI - COUNTY DISTRICTS



CHAPTER IV

COMMUNITY PLANNING - CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

Historical Development

In 1969 the State government became concerned about Montana's children and youth efforts in relation to the White House Conferences on Children and Youth. This concern resulted in the calling together on June 27, 1969 of the heads of over twenty State agencies concerned with human services.

These agency heads were asked to form themselves into the Montana Council on Human Resources and to take as their first project, Montana's children and youth development efforts - especially as related to the White House Conferences.

Council members agreed to hire a coordinator for this work, with several agencies offering various types of support. Gerry Fenn was hired as Community Planning Coordinator, Children and Youth Development Programs and began work on July 14, 1969.

Nature and Scope of Service

First steps by the coordinator were to go to individuals, groups and communities to encourage them to hold workshops to identify children and youth problems, come up with possible alternative solutions, set priorities and take action. To date over 200 such workshops have been held involving over 7,000 Montanans.

An Exploratory Workshop with a cross section of key Montana youth and adults was held for two days at Chico Hot Springs in November, 1969. This experience provided guide lines for future work.

In February, 1970, Governor Forrest H. Anderson appointed the Montana Advisory Committee (later changed to Council) on Children and Youth. Half of the 52 members were youth 25 years and under and half were adults. Functions of the appointed group are:

- * Build programs and recommendations for action to enable the people of Montana, both young and old, to deal with major issues confronting our children and youth.
- * Stimulate better cooperation and coordination among agencies, organizations and groups concerned with children and youth on local, state and national levels.
- * Facilitate widespread involvement with children and youth issues through the implementation of local, district and regional workshops where it will be possible for our young people to work with "the establishment" in solving children and youth problems, and to plan for a relevant future.
- * Talk to one another and listen to what is said.

Under Executive Reorganization, the group was re-constituted in February 1972 as a Council with one woman, one man, one young woman and one young man for each of twelve multi-county districts - making a total of 48 members. Then the Montana Advisory Council on Children and Youth (MACCY) was established by Executive Order and the members thus appointed submitted an Oath of Office to the Secretary of State.

To date, MACCY has had eight meetings in various locations: Helena (2), Whitefish, Miles City, Great Falls, Bozeman, Billings and Missoula. A ninth meeting is scheduled for September 8 - 10, 1972 at Chico. Between meetings there is considerable work done by task groups and individuals. The Community Planning Coordinator serves as the staff person for MACCY.

Considerable work has been done for Montana's 20 delegates to the White House Conference on Children in Washington, D. C.; 15 delegates to implementation conferences in Denver and Seattle; 23 delegates to the White House Conference on Youth in Estes Park, Colorado; and delegates to a variety of other out-of-state experiences. This work includes: applications, recommendations, selection, finances, travel arrangements, orientation and preparation, reports, and follow-up efforts. To date, the coordinator has directly helped nearly 100 different Montanans participate in children and youth experiences outside of the State.

Materials have been designed and duplicated to help any and all Montanans be more effective in their children and youth development work. This includes a newsletter, "Releasing Human Potential" which goes to a mailing list of 1,800 persons. There have been eight issues so far.

Extensive use is made of radio, TV and newspapers to create public awareness of children and youth needs and successes. Five TV spots on "Rearing Children of Good Will" were produced by the coordinator working with 12 students and MSU faculty of the Film and TV and Child Development departments and four different State agencies. The spots will be provided to the 10 TV Stations in Montana.

A major effort by the coordinator was working with MACCY members to get a statement in the revised Montana Constitution on the rights of those under the age of majority.

The Montana Advisory Council on Children and Youth operates with many unique features which could be used or adapted to invigorate many types of groups and activities. These include:

1. A ratio of 50% youth and 50% adults working together on a partnership basis.
2. Emphasis on the principle of "48 Chiefs" rather than having officers.
3. Emphasis on in-depth learning and leadership experiences rather than on a constitution and by-laws.
4. Emphasis on the planning and use of educational designs stressing goals and methods rather than keeping and duplicating minutes.

5. Emphasis on the use of creative techniques and small group methods rather than prepared speeches.

It is hoped that work will be continued and leadership developed to facilitate community-based action to help solve problems, fulfill needs and support positive programs related to children and youth. This is a condensed summary of some of the agency cooperation which makes the work possible:

- A. Social and Rehabilitation Services

For coordinator - salary, travel and per diem, office supplies and equipment, duplicating services, student help.

- B. Rehabilitative Services Division

Office space, full-time secretary, WATTS line telephone, postage, copy service, some office supplies and assistance with special projects.

- C. Department of Health and Environmental Sciences

Contribution to travel and per diem. Assistance with special projects.

- D. Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

Contribution to travel and per diem. Assistance with special projects.

- E. Office of the Governor

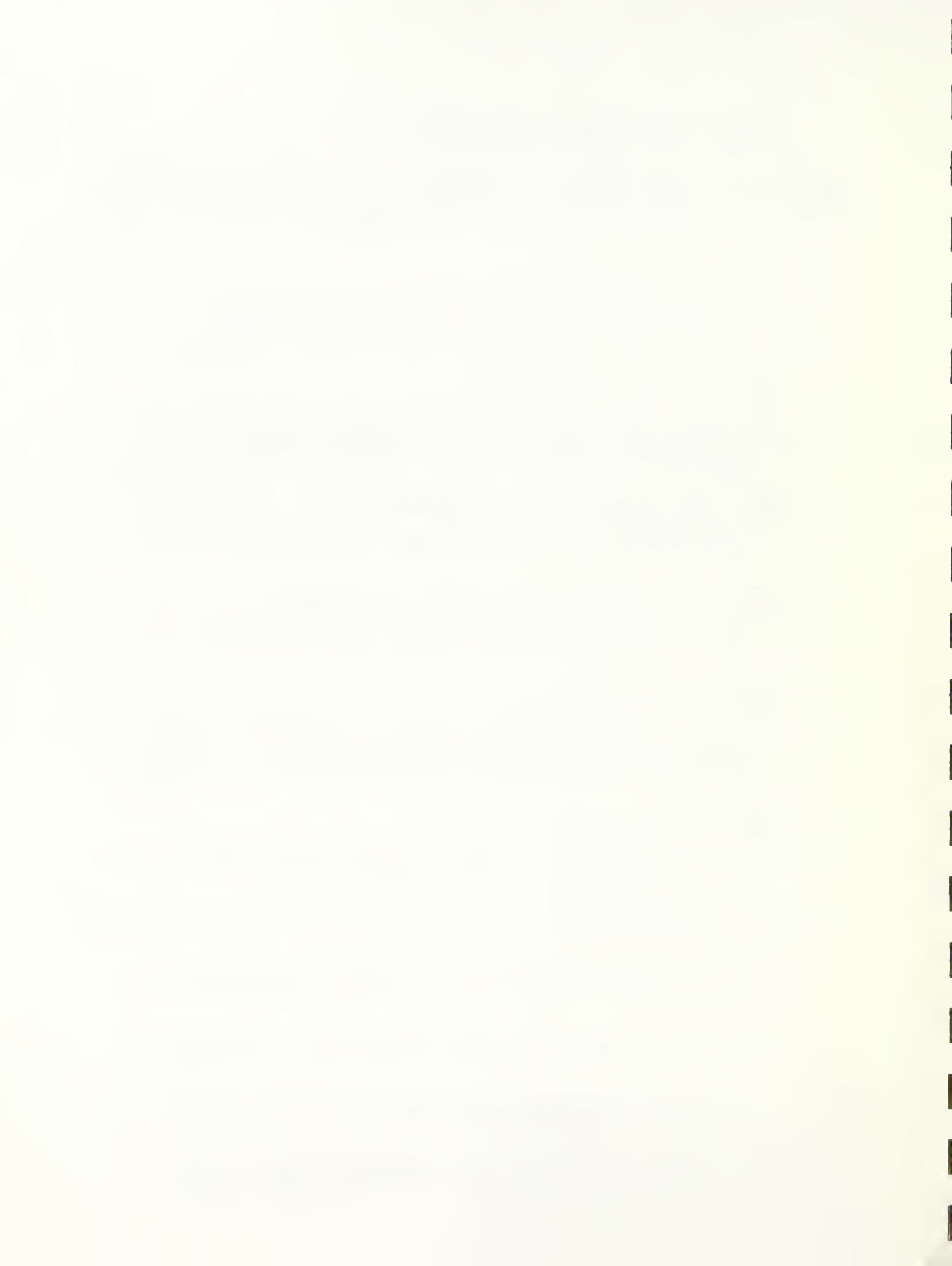
Travel and per diem for some out-of-state meetings. Photographs for publicity. Dues to the National Council of State Committees for Children and Youth. Consultations and advice.

- F. Montana State University

Office and equipment in Bozeman, some secretarial help, WATTS line telephone, copy service, ditto service and supplies, assistance with special projects.

- G. Governor's Crime Control Commission

Duplication of 500 copies of "Youth Opportunities in Montana".



W O R K S H E E T

To what should attention be given in the Nineteen Seventies that is so important that if something isn't done about it, our children will go down the drain?

<p>MONTANA ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH - Helena, March 1970</p>	<p>WESTERN STATES CHILDREN AND YOUTH COORDINATORS - San Francisco, March 1970</p>	<p>STAFF OF WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN - Washington D.C. April 1970</p>
<p>1. We must help parents be parents of the 0 to 13 year olds - How to love; How a child matures; What to expect of children; Activities for 0 - 13 years.</p>	<p>1. The role (function) of the family is disappearing, so what are the alternatives?</p>	<p>1. <u>Parents and Families</u> - Changing families in a changing society; Children and Parents: Together in the world; Family planning and family economics; Child development and day care.</p>
<p>2. Redo the school system so that the learning-growing process (emotional, physical, social development) meets every child's <u>individual</u> needs.</p>	<p>2. Our present educational systems are not appropriate for an urbanized, technological society. We need a child development system that looks at the totality of a child rather than the present educational system.</p>	<p>2. <u>Learning</u> - The future of learning: Into the 21st Century: Creativity and the learning process; The right to read; Confronting the myths of education; Educational hardware: Instructive or destructive?</p>
<p>3. A system of family planning, sex education, pre-natal care and nutrition are basic needs which must be accomplished. Make dental and medical care available. Control drug abuse and child abuse - all with the necessary qualified persons.</p>	<p>3. Children face many increasing and new health hazards. Why does this society <u>have</u> to use drugs?</p>	<p>3. Health - "I feel great": Keeping children healthy; "I don't feel good": Making children healthy; "Why am I different?": Children who are handicapped; "I'm hurt": Children who are injured.</p>

<p>4. Counseling with children, parents, families and teachers to help people know they are valuable and not to make them fit into a mold. Children, parents and families must have access to mental health services.</p>	<p>4. Reassessment of our value systems as they function in society today. Develop real communications between individuals and groups.</p>	<p>4. <u>Individuality</u> - "I'm me"; <u>Emergence of identity</u>; The first years; <u>Expressions of identity</u>: The school-age child; <u>Crisis in values</u>.</p>
<p>5. Be aware of, recognize and deal with discrimination and prejudice and build affirmation of persons. What do we have going for children 0 to 13 in Montana?</p>	<p>5. Personalizing and humanizing the child's environment (family, school, community).</p>	<p>5. <u>Communities and Environments</u>- Children without prejudice; "It's all where you live"; Children and their physical and social environments; Child development and the mass media; The child and leisure.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>6. Re-evaluate and re-codify the laws which affect children. Examine the relationship between financing, laws and what is in the best interest of the child.</p>	<p>6. <u>Laws, Rights and Responsibilities</u> - The rights of children; Children in trouble; The child advocate; About the law: Communicating the law's message to children.</p>
<p>7. Communities need to prepare themselves to serve the handicapped child - mentally retarded, emotionally disturbed, learning disabled.</p>	<p>7. We need mechanisms which make it possible to make changes when they are needed (Establish priorities). We'd like to see some changes made and not pages of materials or published books. Let's accomplish at least one thing.</p>	<p>7. <u>Child Service Institutions: Meeting the Needs of the Seven-ties</u> - A blueprint for implementation.</p>

CHILDREN and YOUTH
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MONTANA

By Montana's 20 delegates to the 1970 White House Conference on Children

This is a summary of specific actions which should
be taken in Montana, above all others:

Parents and Families

"I suggest that workshops to help parents or parents-to-be in understanding child development be a concrete effort as a first step of follow-up to the White House Conference on Children. Parents can become aware that there are many resources to help them in their parenting roles."

- - Clark Welch, Lewistown

* * *

"The one action that I believe should be taken above all others is: Train leaders in sex education and family life education."

- - Sudie Mason, Missoula

* * *

"The single most important action that should be taken in Montana is to help parents learn how to be better parents. This can be done on a local basis, possibly with small groups of parents of children, and youth who work with children, e.g., babysitters. These small groups of 10 or so persons (possibly a group in each city block) may wish to determine their priorities and may wish to seek advice from appropriate resource persons in the local community (nurses, social workers, educators, retired persons). An additional way to help parents be better parents may be to expand existing programs now at some hospitals for parents of newborn babies."

- - Jerry Dalton, Lewistown and Billings

* * *

"My one recommendation for action in Montana is to rehabilitate and counsel the family unit when rectifying an unfavorable home condition for the betterment of a child's environment."

- - Shirley Hill, Crow Agency and Billings

* * *

"One important action which should be taken in Montana is to "Help parents be better parents". If you can't blame anyone else for a child's situation, the parent gets it. But who steps forward to help parents?

"To begin with, each community in Montana could sponsor workshops in series and/or other types of sessions where parents of children under 13 years are combined with youth who are associated with children or interested in working with them."

- - Gerry Fenn, Helena and Bozeman

* * *

"In Montana, one thing I believe we can do is to begin an educational process to cause people to think of families rather than of children and youth independent of the family unit. A first step in that direction is to work on State adoption laws to make them more lenient. Every child has the right to have a parent or parents and to be a part of a family.

"With the coming Constitutional revision, an opportunity presents itself to make children and families a top priority in our State. Since the recommendation of FORUM 15 was voted to be one of the top six of the Conference I think we should continue our program in that direction.

"Montana has a small staff working for children and youth and the Montana Advisory Council on Children and Youth which is a start. The revision of the Constitution may allow these people more power and more funding.

"Many educators and other interested persons are looking critically at our education system. Benefits may be forthcoming but we have much to do. Mental health programs are being promoted in our State to help all members of families. We must get people informed, interested and involved, especially in the Indian people and other underprivileged groups."

- - Nina Hage, Kolin

* * *

"Montana should give whole-hearted support to the existing 4 C's Programs and increase the numbers of 4 C's Programs throughout the State.

"Montana should support programs training for the responsibilities for parenthood in the public schools, starting before junior high school and with direct experience in child care centers. The training should include both male and female students.

"Montana should support programs at the Universities for training personnel to operate developmental day care centers and day care homes that are existing in this State with and without trained operators.

"Montana should support legislation for Licensing Day Care Centers and Homes. Montana should support legislation for Certification of Day Care Operators."

- - Bethine Bigej, Bozeman

* * *

Education, emphasizing Kindergartens

"Since 1948 I have proposed that Montana provide a statewide, state supported kindergarten program. Most States are now considering pre-school programs at the pre-kindergarten level. Montana ought to move to state supported kindergartens now - with concurrent development of tax supported pre-school child development ("day care") programs in every appropriate community as the next step."

- - Mary Condon Gereau, Montana and Washington, DC

* * *

"The one action that I feel should be taken at the State level is the creation of public kindergartens and adequate additional funding for all school systems that want it. These kindergartens should be expected to maintain the same standards as all other grades in elementary schools especially in reference to certified teachers.

"A community level project that I would like to help develop would be the use of teacher aides in the classroom with special emphasis on elementary education. These teacher aides could be parents, college or high school students or other interested persons.

"After serving as a teacher aide for first and second grade pupils, I have come to realize the value they can be to both teacher and students alike. I am not sure of what is being done in my community, but I plan to see what I can do to encourage the establishment of a teacher aide program, if it is acceptable to the teachers and parents."

- - Vicki McHenry, Bozeman

* * *

"The one specific action which should be taken in Montana is to establish a kindergarten program because all existing programs are discriminatory against middle income children and sparsely settled children. Day care centers are in great need for the pre-schooler; a State program is needed to prevent commercialization of day care. The overriding concern, ranked first place in the balloting at White House Conference on Children, is to develop programs for early childhood education."

- - Helen Wendt, Missoula

* * *

"The most important action that can be taken in Montana would be the evaluation of our schools around the State.

"A workshop could be held where parents, educators, students, and the community work together to evaluate and investigate the problems and successes that the school in their area has had in educating the children, youth and adults.

"This community could then establish an alternative educational model that would have education mor relevant to the needs, potential, culture and environment of every child in that school!"

- - Dorothy (Butterfly) Larson, Browning

Health

"I feel the one thing that should be done in Montana is the continuation of the setting up of mental health facilities for children. Examples are the Regional Mental Centers, and possibly county mental health facilities for in the schools."

- - Stanley Wiegand, Bozeman

* * *

"In Montana we need to find funds to continue and expand our current health programs, i.e., maternal-child programs, crippled children services, family planning. We need to find ways of better correlating the services of all agencies to prevent overlapping as well as void areas."

- - Harriet Anderson, Great Falls

* * *

"To eliminate prejudice in children of Montana, the State must increase the exposure of its citizens to their own feelings of prejudice and how they affect others, especially children."

"To begin our task in this State, areas or communities should provide through existing structures or newly formed Human Resources planning groups, sessions to give opportunities for youth, parents, youth leaders and educators to sensitize and recognize their feeling of prejudice and how to effectively deal with them."

- - Patricia George, Billings

* * *

"There is a drastic need for a change of attitudes towards leisure time ... I hope to help set up some workshops that will include all age groups and racial groups. From these workshops, I hope to accomplish first a change in attitudes about all phases of children and youth concerns."

- - Alice Berner, Wolf Point and Helena

* * *

"Promote the use of multi-media techniques to teach children how to make affirmative value implications. Prepare and distribute videotape dialogues that will facilitate communication between children and parents. Train teachers how to be more effective in helping children develop their critical faculties regarding value implications."

- - Joseph H. Roe, Helena

* * *

Children in Trouble

"I intend to help solve the problems of America's children by acting on the problems of children in Livingston, Montana. A nation is made up of individuals and it is toward those individuals in trouble which I must direct my knowledge."

- - Jerry Spalding, Livingston

* * *

"Develop our own conception of the Youth Service Bureau whereby the referral source (parents, school or police) would bring cases to the bureau. They in turn would ascertain what referral services were necessary for that child, and would coordinate those services. The police would only take those cases which would be punishable as crimes if committed by adults or repeated serious misconduct cases, directly to the juvenile court."

- - Charlotte Kilroy, Butte

* * *

Advisory Council

"I would urge that the Montana Advisory Council on Children and Youth be retained, strengthened, and assigned the task of furthering the implementation of whatever recommendations resulting from the White House Conference seem to be appropriate to Montana's situation."

- - Maybelle Hardy, Missoula

* * *

"The most effective method for accomplishing the follow-through in Montana, I feel, is through utilization of the already established and active Montana Advisory Council on Children and Youth. This would necessitate provision for continuation of this Council, and, hopefully incorporation of the recommendations of our White House Conference Delegation, regarding revolving membership, funding, and provision for it being a genuinely representative group.

"Within the area of concern in which I am presently most involved--classroom experiences--there are several possibilities for action. At the present time, through the curriculum evaluation committees, the local chapter of the International Reading Association, the Helena Education Association, and the Montana Education Association, there are and will be opportunities for sharing and for application within Montana, of some of the findings of the Conference."

- - Lois McMeekin, Helena

* * *



COMMENTS AND IMPRESSIONS

by Andy Braaten, Big Timber

COMMENTS AND IMPRESSIONS

by Robin Evans, Butte
with response by Gerry Fenn

YOUTH'S ROLE WITH ADULTS IN CREATING BETTER
COMMUNITIES

by Jerry Dalton, Lewistown
and Gerry Fenn

RIGHTS OF PERSONS NOT ADULTS - Section 15,
Article II of the Declaration of Rights
adopted by the 1972 Montana Constitutional
Convention.



Choose a color for Montana as it is now. Blue? Red? Green???
After coming back this Christmas, a violent grey is my choice.
The comments on the preceding page were collected during that time
and seem to indicate a general mood I encountered. These persons
were not notorious for negativity.

The adults with whom I discussed were frightened by the increase
in "happenings" in an area which they had assumed was undergoing
persistent but gentle change. More and more land is bought by
out-of-state landlords. Their governments, State and local, seem
ineffectual when confronted with drugs, crime, juvenile delinquency,
tax reform, pollution. Planning seems to be very slight. The
accustomed modes of defining and constructing reform in terms of
politics (Liberal - Conservative, Republican - Democrat, American -
Communist) are not adequate when viewing a striking and, at times,
a seemingly destructive challenge to their life style.

The youth with whom I discussed were not excited or even interested
in making Montana their home. The grasping movements in their lives
occured during times of conflict with the "systems" of the State.
Some viewed Montana as an area of great potential which would be
destroyed by inaction and they did not want to be present during
the apocalypse. A few wanted to remain, removing themselves from
the forces reshaping the State - recluses. Only one youth wanted
to stay in Montana and help to develop it into a better place to live -
and he was pessimistic.

This picture is not pleasant but illustrates the views of a great
many individuals in our State. A committee on children and youth
has the option of many areas in which to devote its energies. My
recent stay accentuated the view that one of our group's primary
involvements should be toward the increase of a consciousness of the
actual and potential "becomings" which are occuring in the State. The
orientation of most of the persons with whom I came in contact was
predominantly negative. Even those striving for improvement seemed
to function solely in terms of solving problems, not in terms of
improving and creating a style of life.

Montana communities have many problems, but are rarely involved in
developing a view of what they want to be. The accent appears to be
on what they have become or might be forced to be. Ways of moving
toward a creative orientation seem to be limited: individuals with
the interest; demands involved with the aquisition of State or Federal
funds; news media. The role of groups and organizations within each
of these is vital as well.

As a State, as citizens of communities, and as individuals there are
many resources upon which to call if we wish to develop a conscious-
ness of "becoming." Such a development would occur in the process of
working on projects, but the idea must be kept in mind. I question

COMMENTS and IMPRESSIONS

By Robin Evans, member
Montana Advisory Committee on Children and Youth

I was very happy to be able to attend the Great Falls meeting of MACCY, but I must admit that I was somewhat disappointed with what I encountered there.

First of all, there seemed to be little professional guidance. This concern was brought up during a Saturday discussion I had with some of the other participants. I realize that there are many difficulties involved in getting professional child and youth experts to such a meeting. But these difficulties must be overcome if the MACCY is to realize its fullest potential. There are many psychologists, educators and social workers in Montana who would be of great benefit to the committee if they were made available to its members.

Secondly - this is the more difficult problem to overcome - the MACCY does not seem to have any binding commitment. The members of the committee came to the meeting with individual concerns and commitments. As a whole, they left the same way. There are certain advantages to this. The meeting did reinforce those concerns and commitments making it possible for the members to work better on Montana's child and youth problems as individuals.

However, I view it as necessary to the effective existence of the committee that it should come up with concrete overall plans for children and youth in Montana. This of course is very difficult. As Jerry Dalton pointed out in one of the feedback sessions, it is hard for such a diverse group to come to any single conclusion about any proposal. But still, difficult though it may be, I believe that it is necessary.

Perhaps the meetings of the MACCY could take on the structure of the White House Conference. In this way, specific problems could be dealt with in small groups which could more easily come up with solutions to those problems. This process would be greatly enriched by the presence of professionals. Perhaps each meeting of the committee could deal with a limited number of problems, seeking specific recommended solutions to each.

By doing this, the potency of MACCY would be greatly increased. Specific problems with specific solutions would be much more effective in getting government officials to act on children and youth problems in Montana. Then, MACCY would be truly advising the people of Montana on the problems affecting the State's young people. As an added side-effect, the press would be much more eager to pick up news from the committee, knowing that its recommendations would have an important effect on the State.

I realize that the Miles City meeting came close to realizing this second suggestion. I realize also that there were many very knowledgeable people at the Great Falls meeting. I do not wish to slight them in complaining of the lack of professional guidance. I only wish they had had a better opportunity to present their knowledge to the others.

(over)

I know that after attending only one meeting, I may not be in a position to judge accurately the effectiveness of the MACCY. I know that the committee has been of benefit to the State already. You, Gerry, are deserving of much praise for all of the work you have done with the State's problems on children and youth and for the work you have done for the MACCY. I hope that these reactions to the Great Falls meeting may be of some assistance in making the Montana Advisory Committee on Children and Youth even more effective.

1/71 (100)

RESPONSE TO ROBIN

Miss Gerry Fenn
Community Planning Coordinator
Children and Youth Programs

Whenever a member of a committee takes time to write a letter such as the one you sent in January, I feel the person has taken time to give thought to ideas in order to be helpful. Therefore, your efforts are appreciated.

Although the Montana Advisory Committee on Children and Youth is intended as a citizens group, yet many of the members are highly regarded persons in their professional fields. This would probably be more evident to you as you become better acquainted with the members. Also, since over half of Montana's population is under the age of 25, half of the members are 25 years and under and the other half are over 25 years.

From time to time various types of experts are invited to share in the MACCY meetings. In Great Falls the persons we drew upon were those privileged delegates who had just returned from the White House Conference on Children. In Miles City we had the five staff members of the Southeastern Montana Mental Health Center, all of whom are highly qualified professionals--one of whom is a member of MACCY.

Some of the binding commitments of MACCY are indicated in the enclosed materials:

- A. Note the six commitments which members agreed upon at their first meeting and which they have been working upon since that time.
- B. Task Groups were decided upon at the second meeting. Some of them did considerable work over the summer. You, as a new MACCY member, were given an opportunity to join one of these Task Groups at the time of the Miles City meeting.
- C. Further evidence of the commitments of MACCY are indicated in the purposes of the first three meetings.

I agree that MACCY needs to have both individual and group concerns. The Great Falls meeting did emphasize individual commitments but most of these could not be carried out without some group help. In various parts of Montana, MACCY members have joined together to conduct over 100 workshops involving over 5,000 Montanans which is no small accomplishment. We have hoped there might be workshops in the Butte area or on the Missoula campus. So far these have not developed.

In a way MACCY does have a structure similar to the White House Conference with eight Task Groups and a special group on Legislation. It has been suggested to each Task Group that they draw in additional resource persons as they desired. Some have done this.

Actually, the mass media have been quite eager to pick up news from the committee. We had a publicity portfolio at Great Falls which is now over four inches thick. Often we get responses from radio and TV spots.

Also, we have been trying to operate in the committee on the principle of shared leadership so that members conduct various parts of the experience as they feel able. Considerable planning and preparations go into each meeting.

Granted, the potency of any group can be increased and the points you have raised are important. As each member realizes these things and works on them, we will improve.

Thank you again for writing. I hope I have provided some information which is helpful. If you have questions or other points to raise, I would be glad to try to respond.

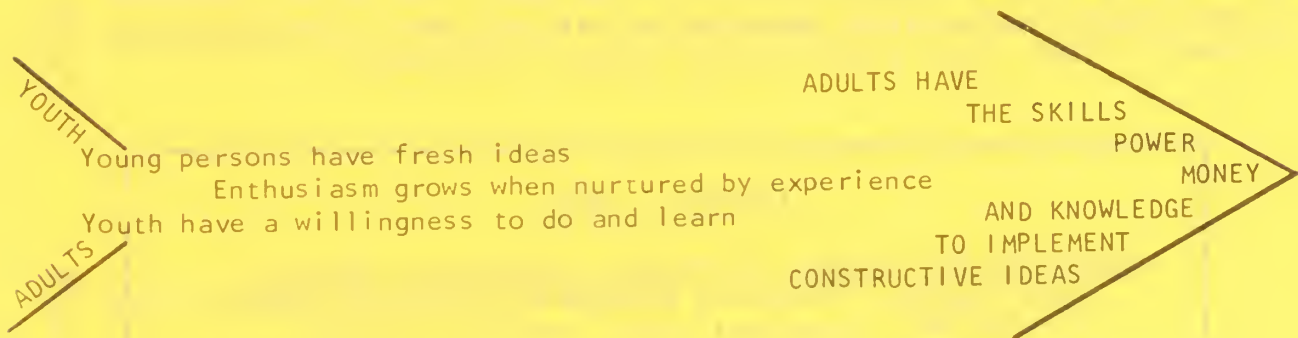


MONTANA'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

YOUTH'S ROLE WITH ADULTS IN CREATING BETTER COMMUNITIES

Values of Youth and Adults Joining Together

Youth can do little by themselves in a world where adults control the power and the money. But young people can do many things with adults. More dynamic and diverse ideas result from youth and adults working together and sharing ideas than either group produces alone.



Reasons for Drawing Together a Cross-Section of a Community

- * Provide an opportunity for all the different kinds of persons in a community to get acquainted in order to facilitate good will and understanding.
- * Draw upon the ideas of as many different kinds of people as possible in order to benefit from their unique point of view and experiences. Each person that we interact with stimulates and broadens our thinking.
- * Include persons representing each interest and group in your community so that all points of view are considered in decisions that are made.
- * Ideas resulting from the interaction of persons can result in more and stronger ideas than the sum of their individual thoughts.

Steps Youth and Adults Can Take

- Sponsor a discussion on an issue of concern to both youth and adults in your community. Invite a cross-section of the community -- half youth and half adults. Include the topic "Youth's Role with Adults in Creating Better Communities."
- Identify all persons and groups in the community concerned with and affected by the issue, positively and negatively. Learn as many facts and opinions from them as possible.
- Offer support to or gain the support of those who have constructive ideas about how to deal with the issue.
- Work to get concerned youth members on Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces that deal with concerns related to the issue.
- Serve as "lobbyists" by visiting key people like the mayor, county commissioners, school board members, legislators, and other decision-makers, to discuss the issue and find out what they are able to do and what they think citizens can do.
- Create public awareness by doing Television, Radio, or Newspaper interviews about the issue and how youth can work with adults toward resolving the issue.
- Develop a list of suggested projects that would involve youth working with adults that could be sponsored by service clubs, civic groups, women's clubs, youth groups, church groups, and others.

FOR YOU TO READ

Community Development in Montana: Resources, Methods, Case Studies. Edited by William R. Lassey and Anne S. Williams. Copyright 1970. Includes selected bibliography of books and articles on communities, community development, and social change. Available for \$2.00 from:

Center for Planning and Development
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59715

"Identifying the Community Power Structure" by Ronald C. Powers. Ask for Extension Publication 19, NCRS-5 Leadership Series No. 2 from:

Cooperative Extension Service
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa 50010

Mr. Jerry Dalton, Children and Youth Planning Assistant, prepared this publication jointly with Miss Gerry Fenn.

THINK SHEET

On Creating Better Communities

With an equal number of youth and adults representing a cross-section of the community whenever possible, explore the following questions:

- 1. What kind of community do we want?

- 2. What is keeping us from having the kind of community we desire?

- 3. What is the first step we will take to create the kind of community we want?

- 4. What further steps will be needed?

- 5. Who is responsible for which steps?

- 6. What other groups or individuals in this community share these concerns?
How can we work together?

Examples of Individuals and Groups Working to Improve Communities

Youth served on school boards in Kalispell, Three Forks, Wolf Point, and Denton, Montana, during the 1970 - 1971 school year.

* * *

Two 1971 Montana Farmer's Union Senior Youth Camps focused on the theme "Community Development." Resource persons who led workshops or classes were Mr. Rex Campbell and Mr. Jack Baringer, Community Development Consultants; Mr. Clark Welch, on interpersonal communications; Mr. Ilert Hellebust, Hill County FORUM (For Organized Rural Urban Management); Mrs. Dorothy Floerchinger, Pondera Action Council; Mr. George Erickson, Green Thumb; Mr. Joe Renders, on state government; Mr. Gerald Croghan, on environmental pollution; and MFU Board Members.

* * *

Youth and adults in Roundup, Montana, began rejuvenating an old building in 1970 that has since become a Teen Center. The youth learned the needed skills and did much of the work themselves. Adults have been supportive with time, money, and materials.

* * *

The area around Lewistown, Montana, has had a Central Montana Human Resources Committee (CMHRC) since 1964 that often included youth in its activities and expanded to include youth in its membership. The CMHRC has sponsored Family Life Conferences; a Family Enrichment Course; a Youth Leadership Workshop; a "Youth Speak Out"; Human Relations Conferences in Grass Range and Winifred, Montana; the Central Montana Little White House Conference on Children and Youth including a "Youth Involvement Fair"; investigation of the possibility of Regional Mental Health services in Lewistown.

* * *

Two of the Montana delegates to the 1971 White House Conference on Aging appointed by Governor Forrest H. Anderson were youth.

* * *

Each year from 1968, a cross-section of youth from nearly every racial, religious, and economic group in America gathered in Great Falls, Montana, for a six week Encampment for Citizenship. The 15 through 18 year olds have explored how they can make a difference in politics, social service, and improving their own communities.

* * *

Twelve persons including administrators, faculty, trustees, and four students called the Rocky Mountain College Council, was created during the 1970-71 school year at Rocky Mountain College. The group advises the RMC President, Dr. Lawrence Small, on policy matters and decisions.

The composition of the Montana Advisory Committee on Children and Youth is half adults and half youth 14 to 25 years. The cross-section represented in its youth and adult membership includes professional workers, parents and lay persons, ethnic minority persons (Indian and Black), low income persons, working youth, and both rural and urban persons.

* * *

A workshop on "Critical Issues Affecting Children and Youth in Sweetgrass County" was held at Big Timber, Montana, in August 1969. An equal number of youth and adults representing a cross-section of the community were invited by the Youth Committee of the Sweetgrass Community Development Organization, the sponsor of the workshop.

* * *

In 1971 the Governor's Crime Control Commission appointed two youth members and two youth alternates to serve with adult members on the Juvenile Delinquency Task Force.

Examples of committees from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction which include youth members are: the Committee on Education for the Disadvantaged and the Drug Education Advisory Committee.

* * *

In 1970, local branches of the American Association of University Women in Billings, Bozeman, and Lewistown, invited an equal number of youth to evening discussions on current issues called "Dialogues with Youth."

SUGGESTED CRITERIA FOR THE INCLUSION OF YOUTH

IN EFFORTS TO IMPROVE LIFE IN COMMUNITIES

Try to include as many of the following as possible:

1. Youth from racial or ethnic minorities such as: Indian, Negro or Black, Oriental, Spanish-speaking.
 - a. Consider each minority if present in the community.
 - b. If no such persons live locally, it would be well to include someone from another area.
2. Someone who comes from a lower socio-economic situation.
3. A person who might be considered a troubled youth.
4. A handicapped youth.
5. Young person who has been in a helping relationship to others: tutoring, head start, handicapped, the elderly, day care or others.
6. Person with a strictly rural background.
7. Youth with no rural experience; someone who has grown up in a town or city environment.
8. Young person who has gone away from the home community: to college, to work, to vocational types of training, to the Peace Corps, VISTA, the Teacher Corps.
9. A youth who has just graduated from high school and wants to work rather than go to college.
10. Someone with experience in an organized youth group.
11. A young person who challenges and stimulates thinking with ideas that are not held by the majority.
12. Youth who has worked with the power structure: in the Legislature, a government agency, a business or private organization; or has served on some decision-making committee, board, commission or task force.

Whenever possible, aim to have 50% of the participants be youth in a partnership relationship with adults. This helps each group feel secure and facilitates one-to-one, adult-youth communication.

(over)

1. Adults who are supportive, accepting, encouraging of children and youth in their problems, ideas, concerns, desires.
2. Those who frequently contact kids who do not feel "in" and who probably are not in organized youth groups.
3. An adult who does not contact children or young people directly, very much, but is interested in community improvement.
4. Individuals and groups who want to find solutions and take action to help create better communities in which to live.
5. Those who have had problems with children or young people, or feel they do not understand the present generations.
6. Represents a private or semi-private youth organization such as: Boy and Girl Scouts, 4-H, Camp Fire Girls, YMCA and YWCA, Church Youth Groups, Farm Organization Youth, Vocational Youth Groups, City Youth Organizations.
7. Persons committed to creating public awareness of problems and who will work with others to bring about the needed changes.

Remember parents -- both mothers and fathers!

SUGGESTED CRITERIA FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF ADULTS

8. Persons from several of these agencies, groups and organizations:

Art Groups
 Business organizations
 Civil Defense
 Colleges and Universities
 Crime Control and Law Enforcement
 Employment Service and related programs
 Extension Services
 Federal-State Programs
 Government
 Health Agencies
 Highway Safety
 Indian Organizations
 Institutions
 Legal Services
 Libraries

Low Income Organizations
 Members of Boards, Commissions, Committees
 Councils and Task Forces
 Office of Economic Opportunity Programs
 Planning and Economic Development
 Recreation Agencies and Programs
 Rehabilitation Agencies
 Religious Groups
 Schools -- associated groups and persons
 Selective Service
 Senior Citizens Organizations
 Service Clubs and Civic Groups
 Welfare Departments
 Womens Groups

Prepared by Miss Gerry Fenn, Community Planning Coordinator,
 Montana Council on Human Resources, Room 507 - Power Block, Helena, Montana 59601

Bob Campbell, George B. Heliker, Mrs. Thomas "Katie" Payne, Mae Nan Robinson and Lucile Speer are Con-Con Delegates who assisted MACCY members become more able to understand and explain the revised Montana Constitution to persons and groups in their respective communities and professions.

Small groups, carefully prepared topics, facilitators and a "Question Panel" were used to aid the education process.

MONTANA CONSTITUTION
Article II
Declaration of Rights

Section 15. RIGHTS OF PERSONS NOT ADULTS. *The rights of persons under 18 years of age shall include, but not be limited to, all the fundamental rights of this article unless specifically precluded by laws which enhance the protection of such persons.*

* * * * *

On March 8, 1972 Con-Con Delegates voted for the above statement 76 to 11 with 13 absent or excused.

"The diversity of the support mobilized and the persuasiveness of their testimony speaks well of the capabilities and convictions of Montanans.

I feel as though I have just read the first part of a great epic and now at the most exciting point must wait for the next installment."

Dr. Catharine V. Richards
Chief, Youth Services Division
Office of Child Development, HEW
Washington, D. C.

* * *

Participants in the April 14 - 16, 1972 meeting of the Montana Advisory Council on Children and Youth numbered 69 plus the Missoula community persons who assisted. 19 local area persons helped make the plans and carry out the sessions. A public information program was carried out with four newspapers, five radio stations and one TV station. A state-wide release was sent out by the University of Montana Information Service.

MONTANA'S DELEGATES

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE COMMITTEES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH (NCSCCY)

1970 ANNUAL MEETING, Washington, D. C.

- * Ruth Amdor
Roundup
- * Andy Braaten
Big Timber

1971 ANNUAL MEETING, Washington, D. C.

- * J. Kelly Addy
Shelby
Mary Condon Gereau
formerly Montana
- * Betty Thompson
Bozeman
- Judy Visscher
Bozeman

1972 WORKSHOP AND ANNUAL MEETING, Denver, Colorado

- * Venus Bardanouve
Harlem
- * Rick Davenport
Helena
Rod Newman
Miles City
- * Don Petterson
Poplar
- * Joan Wood
Miles City

* Indicates that a written report is included with this compilation.

SECTION THREE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE COMMITTEES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Annual meeting held in Washington, D.C.

April 12, 13, & 14, 1970

This isn't a report, but my views and opinions of my trip to Washington, D.C., and the NCSCCY, "for what it's worth."

The Washington Hotel is perfectly located with easy access to the White House, Washington Monument, Smithsonian Inst. and etc. I walked to the Washington Monument with a college girl from Penn., Diane Dumbach, to catch the tour bus on Sunday afternoon. The weather was perfect and the cherry blossoms were just opening and beautiful. The tour took better than an hour and our guide made it very interesting. Diane and I spent some time in Smithsonian after the tour. It would take weeks to see it all well.

The opening session at 7:00 pm featured Stephen Hess, Chairman of the White House Conference on Children and Youth, as keynote speaker. As he spoke, you could sense the irritation and tension among the delegates. We were given 15 minutes to ask him questions; then he left to catch a plane for Venezuela.

Monday I took part in the group discussing, "What is the responsibility of the NCSCCY for establishing State Youth Councils? A National Youth Council?" The group was composed mostly of youth around two large tables. Some states already have State Youth Committees, which are comprised solely of youth with adult advisors and consultants.

This is how some of them are set up:

GEORGIA: Their Youth Committee consists of 250 youths, ages 16 to 21. It is non-partisan and non-political. There are 15 on the Executive Committee and they meet one hour a month with the Governor, besides their regular meetings.

CONN: They didn't feel a state Youth Council was very feasible because of the lack of continuity. They felt they gained more by getting young people on local boards and Commissions, because of the need to let youth have more participation.

CALIF: The co-ordinate Local and County Youth Councils and have a Dept. of Youth Affairs. Their Youth Representative, Winston Lee, felt working from the grass roots was vital.

TENN: They have a commission on Youth Guidance and a Youth Leadership Council. Tennessee is divided into 9 locations with 3 Youths representing each location. They set up Councils and draw out leadership. They rely on volunteer adult leadership, which hasn't been very strong.

Problems discussed in regard to existing State Youth Councils:

1. Replacing the youth that move on. They often draw from established organizations like 4-H and Scouts, which doesn't always give a good cross-section.
2. Lack of good adult leadership.
3. Feed back from State Council to local level lacking.

What adults can do:

1. Work together with youth.
2. Serve as advisors.
3. Liaison
4. They can facilitate communication.

It was obvious how strongly those members, that had attended previous NCSCCY meetings, resented the fact that the White House Conference Staff had decided to split the Conference on Children and Youth into two separate conferences. Since the Children's Conference was all set up, we were instructed to proceed to plan the June 1971 Youth Conference. It was impossible to get the delegates to do so, since they proceeded only to argue and complain.

Resolutions were formulated within the different groups and after some changes were made, they were accepted by the delegates.

I feel that if the planning of the Children and Youth Conferences had to be left up to the NCSCCY, there would never be a White House Conference on Children and Youth.

I can see that it would be very desirable to have each state represented to meet nationally in regard to Children and Youth, but I feel the present structure (NCSCCY) does not suitably serve this purpose.

Last on the agenda was a panel of Government people, representing Health, Education and Welfare, Selective Service and the Dept. of Labor, presenting some of the new legislation due soon, that will make changes in their Depts. It was very informative and after we were given time to ask questions. The meeting was then adjourned and it was check-out time in the hotel.

I knew I would miss the multi-media approach to meetings before I got to D.C. and I was right. There was many a time, I sure could have used a good game of elephant, rabbit and duck! Multi-media is the best possible way to get youth and adults working together in a relaxed, natural manner.

The dinner and dance Monday evening was the one chance we had to relax together and get a little better acquainted.

I was thrilled to be able to go despite the disappointment. The flight was great both ways, and I got to visit with Andy on the plane and got to know him better. He is truly a fine young man.

Signed:

RUTH AMDOR

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Amdor". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "RUTH AMDOR".

AN INFORMAL REPORT ON THE ANNUAL MEETING
of the
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE COMMITTEES ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

On April 12-14, 1970, Ruth Amdor and I attended the annual meeting of the National Council of State Committees for Children and Youth in Washington D.C.. Thirty-seven states were represented with thirty-two of the delegates being youths. Most of the youth delegates were either in high school or college. The meeting proved to be, to say the least, an interesting experience both from the view of the Council itself and from the role of Montana's efforts concerning children and youth. We had been under the impression that one of the principal functions of this meeting was to help plan the White House Conferences on Children and Youth. This function had been largely preempted by the national staff. As a result, the participants became concerned about the role of NCCCY and its relationship to state activities.

PART 1: THE MEETING

The meeting may be considered in Four parts: the presentation by Mr. Stephen Hess, National Chairman of the 1970 White House Conference for Children and Youth; the group discussions; the business meeting; and the panel of representatives from federal agencies.

Mr. Hess' presentation was a progress report on the White House Conference for Children with a few references to the incomplete plans for the White House Conference on Youth. He presented the basic structure and content of the conference. Several of his principal points were: the necessity of a multi-discipline approach, the division of the conference into forums (He stated that this term was used to replace the word "panels" because the latter word had static connotations), and the division of the forums into psychological and sociological areas such as Individuality and Learning, and Communities and Environments, rather than issue oriented areas such as racism or birth control.

The question and answer period following his presentation consisted of questions regarding the advisability of splitting the conferences, the desirability of holding the youth conference at a time which may exclude some youth due to summer work, and the possibility of the conference being politically oriented. Mr. Hess responded as fully as he deemed necessary, and left the meeting.

Group discussions were held on the following topics: Implementation of the 1970 WHCCY; Responsibility of NCSCCY in Establishment of State Youth Council and a National Youth Council; How to Increase and Improve Communication between (sic) the States. I attended the Implementation discussion.

In this group, the immediate question was regarding the direction of implementation of the ideas from the 1970 WHCCY, i.e. Should it be from the top down or the bottom up?. It was felt that the latter would be more effective, for each state would have the opportunity to relate to the conferences' recommendations and decide which might be of value in their area. As a result, it was recommended that the NCSCCY become a permanently staffed organization charged with facilitating the communication among the states and stimulating local work. It would also help relate the national picture to the local view. This discussion group also suggested that youth be involved with the White House Conference on Children, especially in the areas of compiling data on the feelings of children and the analyzation of children's concerns by youth who have been directly working with children. The intern program was criticized due to the possible lack of a representative mixture in the choice of the youth involved. It was felt that any planning for the youth conference resulting from such a mixture might not be grounded in the complete reality of the youth scene.

Other discussion groups appeared to have varying degrees of intensity. Due to the overlapping nature of the groups, many common topics were discussed. A copy of the recommendations resulting from these groups should soon be available.

At intervals throughout the conference, the youth met to discuss the progress of the meeting. During one such meeting, a question to the effect of the following was raised, "Do you feel that the youth work in your state represents tokenism or real concern for the feelings and situation of youth?" Several delegates felt that tokenism was present in their states. We might use this as an evaluation of programs throughout the state: Are we doing this in order to "do something" for the youth or is this really the result of a viable assessment of the situation, to be implemented by joint youth-adult cooperation?

The business meeting consisted of election of officers and the voting upon the resolutions of the discussion groups. There was much debate regarding the lack of youth members on the executive board. The bylaws were not followed due to practical restrictions and the nominations were challenged. Many sought to include youth members. A compromise was made by appointing youth chairmen of the standing committees. This did not eliminate any of the nominated candidates, yet provided adequate youth participation for the next year. The significant aspect of this was the efforts of adults to insure such participation. Much of the earlier focus of the youth delegates on this issue had been redirected by the overriding desire to make the WCCY a significant meeting and not just a token expression of concern.

The panels from the federal governmental agencies consisted of presentations from the Department of Education, Selective Service, Social Rehabilitation Service, Housing and Urban Development, Child Development and the Manpower Development Administration.

Jean Frolinger from the Department of Education spoke on the Elementary and Secondary Education Bill, the Adult Education Bill, the National Education Institute, the Impact Aid Bill and the Higher Education Opportunity Act. Of special interest were the Elementary and Secondary Education Bill and the Impact Aid Bill. The former would supply money for school districts with a large concentration of disadvantaged children, the latter for areas with a large number of children due to the input of such in connection with federal facilities. Each of these might have significance in Montana.

Colonel Perry Cook spoke on the selective service. Since there are no bills regarding this part of the government in congress, he answered questions from the floor. One of interest was the continuence of undergraduate deferments. He stated that he had no knowledge of the discontinuence of such.

Mildred Arnold of the Social Rehabilitation Service spoke regarding Family Assistance Act of 1970 (Bill number: HR 163-11). This would provide a minimum income for all persons, including the working poor. The basic income level would be \$1600. An agreement to participate in training programs and/or accept possible employment would be a prerequisite for application. She also discussed the Social Services Bill, also known as the Individual and Family Bill, which would provide federal funds to aid in foster care programs and adoption services.

A gentleman from H.U.D. (I was unable to get his name) spoke on the Model Cities and Public Housing programs. The portion of interest to Montana was the possibility of communities obtaining funds for the construction of multi-service centers.

Sam Grinato from the Department of Child Development spoke regarding the Headstart Child Development Act (Mondell Bill 20-30). This would provide aid for expectant mothers as well as continue the Headstart program. He also spoke of the Day Care Act (Bill number HR 13520). This bill would institute a program of child care centers and parent-child centers, especially directed toward low income groups and working mothers. He also mentioned the Dellinback bill (HR 15776). This bill is essentially the same as the Day Care Act and illustrates an attempt to obtain non-partisan support for this program.

Mr. Robert Moss from the Manpower Development Administration spoke on the following programs: F.A.P., M.T.A., N.Y.C., J.O.B.S., and C.A.M.P.S.. I did not catch what all these initials meant, and it struck me that the games we play with words can certainly reach ludicrous proportions. The significance of this presentation was the concept that F.A.P. will centralize the coordination of these youth opportunity programs and C.A.M.P.S.. will act as coordinator. Since Roundup has been working with C.A.M.P.S. in their efforts to establish a youth

employment program, it is possible that this shift will facilitate the implementation of their program.

PART 2: SOME OBSERVATIONS

The meeting was not what was expected, yet there were several ideas discussed which Montana should consider. The most relevant concepts were: the direction in implementation of programs of youth concern, the role of youth in the state, and the concept of youth-adult cooperation.

Implementation has been directed toward the local level in Montana in contrast to the state level direction which is present in some areas. The "grass roots" approach can be effective, and this aspect of implementation should not be neglected. The community workshops, structured in accordance with group process principles provided a sharp contrast to the formally structured national meeting. The viability of the former approach should be emphasized due to its positive results, illustrated by the substantial interest in youth issues it has stimulated.

State level action by and for youth has been an emphasis in some states. This appeared to be founded upon the premise that wide area concerns of youth might be more effectively communicated on this basis. Most state level programs have been funded by either the governor or the legislature in those states. There have been concerted efforts to insure non-affiliation with any single political element. In some states youth sit on state boards as non-voting members to provide possible youth reactions to programs and to encourage youth concern in the political structures of the state. The underlying assumption that youth can contribute effectively in a responsible manner to states is certainly a provocative concept, well worth considering. The establishment of a state youth commission composed of youth and adults should be seriously viewed as a possible means of encouraging youth participation and adult-youth communication in Montana.

Youth-adult cooperation (Youth being under twenty-five) is an area of concern, not only on the national level, but also on the state, regional, and local levels. Youth work has taken

many forms and directions, from concentration on youth employment as in the state of Utah, to youth oriented legislation as in Tennessee and Massachusetts. Montana should encourage cooperation and coordination of youth oriented programs, private and public, to provide a more effective means of implementation. If Montana is to seriously deal with the youth situation in this state, we must provide some channel of communication to the 60% of youth not affiliated with youth programs, possibly with a regional or state, loose organization designed to draw on this segment of our youth population.

It is always important to remember that delineation of issues has limited significance if nothing is done to improve negative situations. We must build on the core feeling of cooperation and concern already present in some areas of the state, to build a more positive atmosphere for youth. As it was stated by a youth delegate at the NCSCCY meeting, "We must strive to build a community based upon cooperation and trust, not tokenism, if this whole scene is to be 'real'." Montana has not fallen in to the trap of tokenism; it is building.

ANDY BRAATEN

REPORT OF ANNUAL MEETING
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE COMMITTEES ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Washington, D. C.
September 26 - 28, 1971
J. Kelly Addy
Shelby, Montana

First, I must describe my "participation" in the conference. As a full-time law student I am bound by certain inflexible responsibilities (i.e., classes). My attendance at the conference, therefore was limited to Sunday and Monday night sessions. From them I have formed some primitive impressions. They are my report.

Concern for children and youth and for the problems they face; and for the solutions they must find in order to more meaningfully express themselves is isolated as a phenomenon, is spasmodic as a movement and is fatally mundane as a cause celebre.

Everyone is concerned about children and youth. Everyone. But so, too, is everyone more concerned about something else. Well, not everyone. But it does seem that no one who is thrown into the focus of governmental activity relies upon this issue as the one with which he wishes his name to be identified above all others. He wants to manifest "an overriding concern" for children and youth but is far too preoccupied for it to become a consuming interest.

I would not describe this observation as cynical, but only discouraging. It is not an issue - a collection of issues - that is a matter of life and death, a matter of oppressed (physically) masses or any form of tragedy dramatic enough to arouse the sympathy of another group, much less move them to action. And that's just what is needed.

The voting public, the one to whom the legislator responds and from whom he seeks to elicit a positive response is not caught up in this particular cluster of crises. The 18-year old vote will add some of those previously disenfranchised to the electorate. This may change the emphasis of issues that impinge upon the legislator, but it will mean next to nothing to the influence of those who are younger.

The political attention of youth is focused on those who are older than themselves not younger. Their activities would indicate a desire on their part to alter the behavior of those who are in control for the benefit "of all men" and does not mean that children have found a group of advocates who are more vitally concerned with their problems. After all, "that's kid stuff."

This particular group of issues would seem far too indirectly related to the big issues of the day to warrant anything more than an overriding concern.

The meetings of which I was a part looked like an organization in its death throes. Everyone was either attending dutifully (inattentively) or in a hurry to get somewhere else. Some officials couldn't even be there. So children and youth, as a group of issues, would seem to be little more than political bubble gum.

(over)

But this sub-visibility is precisely where the greatest "strength" of the movement lies. If there is little that can be done, there is little that can't be. Indeed, the slogan of the day may - in many ways - be THINK SMALL.

I fear that I am now at the border of my knowledge, if not beyond. But to enlist people is vital. However, the emphasis should be on an outward look. (Good job, Gerry.) Ask people to do things instead of just talking to each other about it. Make the activities of MACCY literally go out into the community. Rather than concentrating concern, spread it around a little bit.

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REPORT OF ANNUAL MEETING
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE COMMITTEES ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Washington, D. C.
September 26 - 28, 1971
Betty Thompson
Bozeman, Montana

Since I work here in Washington, D. C., I was not able to attend all the meetings of the NCSCCY. I missed some presentations, the business meeting and the regional caucus. At the times I was present, I had doubts that anything new was being said, just general comments about how children and youth should be given a higher priority in the nation and much work had to be done.

Senator Schweiker did give some insight into action in the Senate of the Child Development Act. The Act was able to pass, as an amendment to the OEO bill, because it had solid support from a coalition of 23 groups. He also pointed out that the Day Care program is not just a custodial program, but has positive benefits in the fields of nutrition, health, education, and family counseling. It is one of the best of the new programs, and should get continued support.

Mr. Foster from the Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention Administration in HEW pointed out the benefits of coordinating efforts of state groups in their work of helping children and young people. There should be joint planning and joint funding with the community. In programs such as juvenile delinquency prevention, there should be a goal of youth participation in programs.

Mr. Sidney Johnson, Director of the Senate Committee on Children and Youth, made a special point to stress the need of having a strong lobbying group. In the business of legislation-making, decisions come up quickly and are made quickly, with no time to reach state organizations. A full-time lobbyist needs to be available all the time. The recent Council recommendations such as a Cabinet-level agency for Children and Youth and yearly reports to the President are all useful, but even more important is a strong lobby to get through the recommendations. When questioned about the lack of communication from the Senate Committee to the State Committees, Mr. Johnson regretted the fact but did not feel it was the Committee's fault. The system of quick legislative decisions does not make it possible for direct communication unless there is a strong lobby present, as there was for the Child Development Act. Public pressure should always be felt by the legislators, too. Children and youth needs should be made issues in elections, and members of Congress who vote the wrong way should not be re-elected.

Dr. Donald Cohen, an assistant to the Director of the Office of Child Development in HEW, pointed out that child development must be regarded in all phases-- biological, psychological, cultural, emotional, sociological, family systems, and the expectations upon the child. The family itself is very important and must be strengthened. The values in the community must also be considered and improved.

If there is a contradiction between coordination and advocacy activities in the State Committees, they should probably concentrate on coordination since other agencies are better prepared and financed to deal with child advocacy. Also there is more of a chance in the state committees getting involved in politics or undesirable pressures if they undertake advocacy.

I attended the workshop of Mobilizing the 18-year old vote. There was much discussion on whether the registering should come first or the motivation of young people by candidates and issues. It was generally agreed that there tends to be a large amount of apathy among the younger people and motivation is a problem. Many argued that the solution was to get out candidates and issues early that would appeal to youth and make them feel an involvement in the election process. A member from Wisconsin told of their "registration for peace" drive which was quite successful in motivating. This will also mean that youth will have to have influence within the parties to be able to get their candidates nominated.

A South Dakota representative argued that it was the task of the State Committees and other government agencies to get young people registered first. His state is having a "Register new voters month" being sponsored by the state and involving large efforts to register young people, both college and non-college. It is a non-partisan effort with strong support from the State Committee on Children and Youth. They stress the theme that it is their right to vote and they should take advantage of it, with no consideration for candidates or issues.

The State Committee is concentrating in South Dakota on the legislative aspects. They have introduced a bill which makes all the high school principals officers who can register students to vote. Other laws can be changed such as making deputy registrars possible (which would not be as necessary in Montana), having roving registrars who travel around the state, and moving the registration deadline closer to election time.

They are also sending buses to Indian reservations to bring people in to register. They are getting all of the names of people over 18 from lists of drivers' licenses, and then are contacting them.

Other activities the Committees could be involved in are making changes in school curriculums so that young people could get a more realistic picture of the actual local-level politics and how it functions. It was suggested that less emphasis should be placed on national campaigns in trying to motivate young people, and more on local levels where they could really have influence. At the local level, only a few votes can make a difference in a primary.

Young people in the state should be informed about the State Committee so that they will have more power to influence politics--giving it an organizational role like the Labor Unions--and so they will know where to go for help.

Report of
WORKSHOP AND ANNUAL MEETING
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE COMMITTEES ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Denver, Colorado
April 14-16, 1972

Venus Bardanouve
Harlem, Montana

Sorry this is so late but I really needed some time to back off and think over this trip to the NCSCCY Workshop and Annual Meeting anyway. I had a confused set of impressions about it certainly and was really quite disenchanted by a lot that went on. I don't think I am a person whose philosophy is that of an "aginer" but, as one speaker at the meeting said, "I'm beginning to lose confidence in meetings."

Beginning with a speech from the Chairman of the Workshop, Dr. Richard Clendenen, stating that the business of state groups was advocacy, social action, and coordination of interest groups and involvement--especially of youth--in public affairs, we proceeded to deny these beliefs during the major part of the meetings that followed.

I should state first that attendance was good--most of the states, and a mixture of young and old. Quite a number of states had sent their "bosses" and these seemed to me an established core group of the Council. This lends continuity, but rigidity also.

The methods used to conduct the meeting were two: Speakers and small discussion groups. A panel was used once, but it was really a series of small speeches. We were assigned to a small group--about 20--and had to remain in the same group for the three discussion periods. My group, at least, had three quite inflexible leaders who had prepared questions, etc. for the agenda. There was no time for diversion. Just rigid business--and this was deadly. Young people gradually didn't make it and others chafed inwardly and were silenced in out-of-line suggestions. We did the usual such as "define terms" and "define problems" but never really got to hear and talk about what we wanted to in my group. And from the reports of the other groups, I would guess that was the feeling pretty much overall. I must be fair and state that the topic of the meeting was strengthening the state and national committees but I think the idea in the "core's" mind was the national organization.

After the first discussion group, the young people got together and met. They then asked for a different list of topics and the decision was to have one of theirs, and one of the Board's. In my group we didn't have much time for the youth's. The youth members then began to square-off against the establishment, as usual nowadays and most adults new to the structure felt in revolt as did the youth. The hard core was polite, but not very yielding. One speaker had said at the meeting, "In America, we don't really believe in our youth" and we proved it in the meeting. The establishment listened--but not really. I couldn't help but notice that many of them didn't even engage the young in conversation as opposed to other unfettered adults who were eager to get the opinion of youth on many, many issues and sought them out at lunch, etc.

I might put in here before going on, that I met some charming, interesting and concerned people. I met some young who were as "old fogey" as any older person I know and some adults who were young in spirit. To know our own Montana people better was a treat to me. I recall discussions with a former Catholic priest who has just married and is going into youth work, a Buddhist youth worker, a young radical

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(really a very decent, although dissenting, kid) and a protected Southern girl who cried when she heard him expounding his views on the flag, the war and loyalty oaths. I sought ideas from many people, but realized now that I really didn't gain many ideas of actual activities for youth and children in other states.

At the first meeting, someone mentioned that several of the youth delegates to the Estes Park meeting were there and maybe we could hear from them. I later mentioned to the two men in charge that I would like to hear from them and was told that I would have to contact them personally. Well, I did so and contacted two only. The first girl seemed to think the meetings were wonderful in every respect; the second was vehement in telling me the meetings were "rigged", etc. Anyway, the format was not changed to include this request and I'm sure several--if not many--wanted to hear these young people. Another example of rigidity was the fact that they omitted introducing the delegates. It was to be done at the beginning of the conference, but since they were time-pressed in some way, this was omitted. To me, this seemed of primary importance and we never did get to know who and from where some people came.

There was one social that met at 8 o'clock. Refreshments were present but there was nothing planned. Had not the Samoans present sung and danced there would have been nothing. It didn't last long. The two luncheons did give time for visiting with neighbors prior to the speakers. This was good and the speakers from outside were good and informed in their areas. A few ideas: One speaker warned not to get into promoting programs in our states to show we are doing something--not to yield to the temptation of delivering of services. One speaker stated that even if the dollars were doubled, the problems of children and youth would be the same. Another stated that the need to change is the role of children and youth in society. Another advised states to stay objective, to get an overall view and not be tempted to assume administrative duties because of funding that could be obtained and lose identity and become another competing element in the state.

One positive action occurred but it was a spontaneous one. A delegation of several American Samoans (A chief from Samoa and Wash. D. C. and students attending school in San Francisco) asked the group to take action on the Samoan school system. They explained that for 12 years it has been entirely by T.V. One student told me he never used a book until he came to college. It looked as though this request was going to be "taken up later" when someone suggested calling the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and asking about this. As a result the Commissioner of Education talked over a two-way hook-up with the Council President and the Samoans at lunch. He said he was sorry the students had been harmed by this and that he understood only 2 hours a day were now done in T. V. He also added that a delegation was going to Samoa in May and that two delegates from this Council could go along. That was all satisfying.

On this matter of citizens approaching the government; we should have this right. A young girl from Alabama where there is no Council told us that she had written Governor Wallace three times, with no reply, requesting that a Council be formed. I asked her if she had requested an interview with him and she said she understood you could not see him sooner than one year. I then suggested that she request an interview and if the appointment had to be a year off, that she try to give this information to the news media. If she could get this printed, she'd get his attention, I imagine. Our problems in Montana seem minute when compared with most states.

Then we got to the core of the meeting, it seemed to me--organization. The organization of this group seems much too complex to me. I suppose the idea was to give people representation, but the Council has fallen into the trap of being overorganized and bogged down in it. The whole annual meeting was spent on the constitution and

related subjects. The youth fought, sometimes unthinkingly, for more representation. They ended up with more representation in several areas. I say, "unthinkingly", because I know from experience that some officers in these things have to be established persons with staff, copy machines, etc. to make contacts. They were really fighting more for an ideal than for actual representation, I believe.

The constitution and minutes will be available soon and have details. By the way, the Montana statement on children and youth in the proposed constitution was to be included in the minutes since many wanted it. Dues can be raised by the Board. I wanted to include "with states approval", but this slipped by when I was looking elsewhere. Talk was of \$100; so be ready.

Another new service was to give consultation to states requesting it. A sum of money for this must be used by January, 1973 so this must be done rapidly. Nearby Board members will go out to the states, as requested, to help.

There was much talk of staff for the organization. Money was then the next topic. and I believe there has been much talk of this previously by the Board. \$600,000 was mentioned at one time. Anyway, they are seeking a grant somewhere at the Federal level and spoke of "revenue sharing" with the states. The statement was made by the President that the National Council is not a controlling body but could be if they had such monies. I can see a growing bureaucracy then. A staff, then offices, then a building !!

I note in materials sent me that Ruth Amdor had stated, "I can see that it would be very desirable to have each state represented to meet nationally in regard to Children and Youth, but I feel the present structure (NCSCCY) does not suitably serve this purpose." I agree. I can't help but feel that it meets some of the personal needs of some of the officers and leaders more than the states or children and youths needs. A looser discussion group where actual ideas and experiences in states could be exchanged is what is really needed, it seems to me. What is here is a group assuming that power and firm control is necessary. If I thought that one young person or child would be helped by moving in that direction, I would be for it. However, I'm afraid that a type of bureaucracy is developing here and its main concern will probably end up being the perpetuation of itself.

Let's keep it simple---as little organization as possible--funding only as necessary and try to get down to the basics which really have to do with what goes on in people--young and old alike.

We from Montana feel, I'm sure, that we are lucky to be unfettered and in a group such as we have. This is a direct result of your own thinking, Gerry, and we are fortunate to have you in this position. I would suggest that you try to attend the next annual meeting since you have to work with this group--as long as it seems worthwhile--and need to understand what is going on also.

Report of
WORKSHOP AND ANNUAL MEETING
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE COMMITTEES ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Denver, Colorado
April 14-16, 1972

Rick Davenport
Helena, Montana

I began my stay in Denver attempting to recover from the roughest flight possible. I thought I was going to die. However, following a good night's sleep in the luxurious Hilton I was raring to go.

The keynote speaker, Dick Clendenen, outlined some very important functions and principles of state committees and also some pitfalls to avoid. I am very pleased to say that Montana is extremely progressive in most areas that he discussed. Of course, we do lack in some respects. He stressed the importance of the committee assuming a social action role, that is; public information, public service, and involvement in educational systems curriculum change.

One conclusion I realized was that the lack of publicity of our state committee could possibly be hampering our effectiveness for the simple reason that nobody knows who we are and what we are doing. I propose that we somehow increase public awareness of MACCY and I shall be talking in depth about a solution.

He further stated that it is the state committee's role to coordinate the various state agencies in the programs of each agency concerning youth and children. I do feel that Montana has taken a positive step forward in this respect but being just an Advisory Council we can only advise. That alone places us far behind some states such as South Carolina which as a bona fide Youth Affairs Commission has nine adult commissioners who work full time in this coordinating capacity. There were a few people quite shocked to find out that Montana is 50/50 youth and adults. One typical reaction was "Don't you fight all the time?" I was pleased to give a vigerous "no" in reply.

Throughout my stay I became concerned about the number of states that hassled over the problems of funding. It seemed to me that they were forgetting that they were supposed to be doing something for youngsters not trying to dig up another almighty buck and I said so several times even on occasion convincing someone. However, I did think one of the suggested ideas might work for Montana. That is that we ask one or all of the state agencies dealing with children to give us money for council members traveling expenses and of course the coordinator's office. We would then continue to move our meeting places all over the state but this would facilitate the attendance of the regular members giving us backbone, so to speak.

I do realize that under the present organization of MACCY the actual attendance of members appointed by the Governor is dwarfed by the sheer number of the participants from the area surrounding the meeting. This is good but I do think that effective organization on the community and county level is lacking, one of the points stressed by Mr. Clendenen. I know personally that the only time I see or talk to the three other members from my district is seemingly restricted to our near quarter annual meetings.

I advocate that MACCY branch out and subdivide within each region in order to delve more deeply into each community and the problems which it has. All this adds up to participation and hopefully beneficial participation. I have a fear that this will increase the burden in the coordinator's office but I have faith in the "48 chief system" and with luck, it will work as well with 48,000.

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Another role that he outlined was for us to assume the role of the CHIEF and most important lobbyist for children and youth in our respective legislatures. Believe me I was very proud for our accomplishment which Mr. Clendenen pointed this out to the group.

I shall now attempt to summarize the workshop as a whole by answering the questions on the report outline. As for ideas that Montana could use I have answered but I shall briefly enumerate them:

1. Increase publicity
2. Request from various agencies money for traveling expenses for council members.
3. Subdivide within each region to provide for more involvement.
4. Give priority to meeting in places where the more serious problems are.
5. Provide a handbook that lists key people that provide services to children and youth.

Now in regards to the annual meeting, I have to tell that I was not in the least impressed by the henpecking that took place. I ate a trout at the noon luncheon that tasted funny to me but then again I had never eaten a fish with the head still attached to the body. Within the hour I took ill and returned to the friendly confines of my room and there I remained until the following morning. Although I did feel poisoned, I knew that it wasn't the poor fish's fault; it was simply a case of the flu coming on.

I tried to attend the Sunday morning session but I still hadn't recovered. With the threat of impending disaster on the homefront, meaning that I felt as though I had let Montana down, I took the first flight home dreading the consequences of dying 810 miles from home. Once home I took to bed with a 102 degree temperature and there I remained for two days. However, after corresponding with some of my newly found friends, I found out the meeting was anticlimatic after the workshop.

After the trip to Denver and talking to the many people I met, I am very proud to say that I am from Montana and to be a Montanan. Of all of the states there, I feel that Montana is head and shoulders above them all. Perhaps I didn't learn much else but to me that is very important. Other states are paralyzed by problems we just take in stride. This is a salute to you, Gerry, for all the work you have done to make it possible for me to teach them more than they taught me.

Report of
WORKSHOP AND ANNUAL MEETING
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE COMMITTEES ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Denver, Colorado
April 13 - 16, 1972
Don Petterson
Poplar, Montana

The NCSCCY meeting in Denver was divided into two parts, a workshop and an annual meeting. The workshop took up the biggest share of time and caused some unforeseen difficulty in the annual meeting.

The workshop was quite different from what I had expected. I guess I was looking for a little more originality than was forthcoming. After wading through the usual greetings by the local Pharaoh's, which included Governor John Love of Colorado, we listened to a rather long opening address and were then directed to break up into small discussion groups. This is a good technique if some new methodology is used within the small group; such was not the case. Instead, we had the all too familiar group "leader" who was imposed from the larger organization along with a list of things to be done. It was at this juncture that this delegate ran into the hackneyed figure of the "Eastern establishment liberal". I must here confess to a most abominable crime, I tried to deviate from the agenda. The gentleman from back east who was the group leader quickly corrected my error with a mild rebuff.

In my particular workshop the sessions became more or less comparison conferences. The group leader would bring up point one for consideration and then State A would tell how they handled that in their state, then State B and so on down the line.

This procedure was very informative for some states but not for Montana. What I am going to say next may be interpreted by some as rank provincialism and others as boot licking, nevertheless, I am going to say it. Montana had by far much more to give to this group than to receive. Before I went to Denver I suffered from an inferiority complex with respect to what was going on in the Eastern United States. On every level that I was able to compare our MACCY set up with other states, we were way ahead. Very few states approach our ration of youth to adults serving on the committee. Most of them were so bought and sold by the states political machinery that it was embarrassing to compare notes with them.

On Thursday afternoon the youth attending the conference announced that they were holding a caucus that evening. The results of that caucus were not apparent until Saturday afternoon when the annual meeting was being set up. What was to have been a routine reading and acceptance of the proposed by-laws of the NCSCCY legal charter turned into a floor fight. The youth managed to increase their potential delegate strength in the organization from one third to one half. This was accompanied by corollary proposals to increase their numbers proportionately on other boards and committees. Some of the arguments being used to try and defeat these proposals were quite revealing. Individuals who were quite maudlin in their earlier statements about how much they cared for children and youth did quite a pirouette on the floor.

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The youth stuck to their guns and won most of the points they were trying to change. The session became rather tedious throughout this adoption of the by-laws due mainly to lack of parliamentary skills. One thing I felt I learned is that a good chairman is worth ten parliamentarians.

When the by-laws had finally been adopted the proposed resolutions were read and acted upon. I introduced one resolution which had NCSCCY urging the immediate adoption of the proposed new federal regulations for the Johnson O'Malley Act monies. It passed.

In summing up I would say that Montana's biggest impact was in MACCY's role in the framing of the new constitution. This achievement was given general recognition by the chairman of NCSCCY. It was also the topic about which I was asked the most questions by other delegates. Usually the question was "How did you do it?" in regards to the inclusion of children's rights in the new constitution. I think this was a common experience for all the Montana delegates there.

I found the youth delegates to be the most interesting participants of the meeting and am glad that they won their fight for more representation. I am anxious to see how this incorporation works out as a number of us were concerned that NCSCCY was on the road to becoming another bureaucratic organization.

Report of
WORKSHOP AND ANNUAL MEETING
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE COMMITTEES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Denver, Colorado
April 13 - 16, 1972
Joan Wood
Miles City, Montana

Both the workshop and the annual meeting were very interesting and informative to me in terms of background information about state committees on children and youth and their work - even though I didn't get to attend all of the meetings. I am not sure that we Montana Advisory Council on Children and Youth members learned as much as we contributed to others. I was very glad for all the orientation and information provided me as a new MACCY member. There was some discussion of a newsletter-type exchange of materials, statements of purpose, mandates, reports of state committee work, etc. among state committees. I don't know who might get something like this stated, but it seems like a good idea to receive input and ideas regularly.

I have enclosed my copy of the questions used in the discussion groups during the workshop. I think some of these might be useful for discussion in our MACCY meetings as we clarify our purposes and evaluate priorities. Also Richard Clendenen's remarks during an opening address are worthwhile to consider as a measuring stick of our activities and goals. He stated that the important functions of state committees on children and are:

1. Child advocacy (which needs some definition and clarification in order to work towards it).
2. Social action roles such as studies, surveys, public education on issues regarding youth and children.
3. Coordination of services related to children and youth - especially to identify gaps and overlaps in services and agencies' functions. (I have some questions as to what "coordination" means.)
4. Administration, establishment, supervision of service programs for children and youth (although he cautioned against becoming too involved in one specific project or assuming too much of the administrative role of services).
5. Involving young people - and more people in general - in public affairs especially those issues regarding youth and children.

It seems to me that the last function might be one of the most important. I have always felt that if young people had more to do with planning and running the activities designed for them (where appropriate and feasible) that these programs and activities might be more successful. For example, many communities have started elaborate recreational programs or facilities and found them to be less than enthusiastically received by the young people. Part of the failure is that the young people have not had a chance to do enough of the work towards solving their own problems.

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As I mentioned, I was glad I was fairly well-informed about the functioning of MACCY. I think one of the most important aspects of this is that I was generally familiar with all the programs and agencies dealing with children and youth in the state. Last fall's conference in Billings, the January meeting in Helena and the Children's Fair were all very helpful in this. I found many NCSCCY delegates quite uninformed about what was being done with and for children in their states. This left them less than able to coordinate services, set priorities, etc. I think MACCY should continue to spend part of each meeting becoming familiar with all that is going on in agencies and services.

I also have an orchid - or whatever - for Jim Pippard and staff. There was much discussion of 4-C's programs and it seems Montana has one of the most useful and well-functioning programs. This seemed to me to be a very important group for MACCY to be working with.

There were two proposals that were considered during the Annual Meeting - one for Regional Organization and one on a Consultation Service between state committees. I was especially interested in the Consultation Service because I think we have some great people in Montana who might be able to help other state committees get going.

Well, it seems there were many more things I thought of at the time of the meeting, but I will try to bring them into future MACCY meetings.

SUGGESTED WORKSHOP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Planning Committee believes the Workshop offers a unique educational opportunity for all state committees. The Workshop group sessions - Workshops I, II, and III - will offer an opportunity to share valuable ideas and experiences on concerns of mutual interest. Listed below are questions offered by the Planning Committee to stimulate group discussion. The questions are not intended in any way to restrict or control discussion. Instead they are offered as suggested topics which may be of interest and concern to the group session participants. The Planning Committee would, however, like each group to consider the one question assigned to them for each of the three workshops.

WORKSHOP I - "Organization of State Committees" Thursday, April 13, 1972 - 1:45 P.M.

- Is it realistic and/or practical for state committees to coordinate private and public services for children and youth?
- Can a state committee realistically serve as an advocate for children and youth?
- Should a state develop separate state committees for children and for youth?
- What can a state committee do to insure it succeeds in carrying out its mandate?
- Are there certain functions which are incompatible for state committees to perform? What is best done by other groups?
- What is the relationship between state committee structure and composition to the development and maintenance of credibility?
- What effect does a state committee's priorities have on its structural organization? or does its structure limit its functions?
- What is the relationship between the mandate of a state committee and its composition, i.e., youth and minority group representation, professional and lay personnel involvement, etc.?

WORKSHOP II "The 'Hows' of State Committee Work" Friday, April 14, 1972 - 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 and 4:00 P.M.

- How can a committee structure help insure that the mandate given a state committee will be carried out?
- How does a state committee establish and maintain a high level of enthusiasm and competence in carrying out its activities?
- How does a state committee organize itself in response to multiple mandates it may be asked to carry out?

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WORKSHOP II (continued)

- How does a state committee establish priorities and decide what is most important for its state?
- How does a state committee recruit youth and minority group participation and representation?
- How should professional and volunteer personnel be used to advance the work of a state committee?
- How does a state committee establish and maintain its credibility?
- How may state committees secure the broadest possible input of ideas?
- How can state committees establish and maintain grassroots involvement?
- What factors should be considered in developing priorities?
- How does a state committee secure adequate resources to carry out its activities?
- How should state committees relate to "youth service systems"?
- How can state committees advance the national movement of youth service bureaus?

WORKSHOP III "Evaluation and Future Planning" Saturday, April 15 - 9:00 A.M.

- What aspects of the Workshop seemed most helpful in strengthening state committees? What was least helpful?
- Can a workshop conference of this or any other type be expected to help strengthen state committees?
- What additional inputs should have been incorporated into this workshop which would have been helpful to state committees?
- What should be the program for future workshops for state committees for children and youth?
- What follow-up activities should be taken after this workshop which would be in keeping with its theme?
- What role should state committees and the National Council play in future workshop endeavors, assuming there will be future workshops?
- Discuss the pros and cons of having regional vs. a national workshop in the future.
- How can state committees as well as states without committees, utilize the materials presented and discussed at this workshop?



